

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration of the present application and claim. Early and favorable action by the Examiner is earnestly solicited.

Please cancel claims 1-15 and 22-26. Please add new claim 31, which is supported by claim 16. Claims 16-21 and 27-31 are pending.

With respect to the amendments to the specification, no new matter has been introduced by the changes submitted herewith. Please amend the first sentence at page 1 of the specification to correctly indicate the priority chain of the instant application.

Regarding the claims, changes were introduced to put the claims in a format that complies with the amendments from the parent application (USSN: 09/120, 044). No new matter has been introduced by this amendment. Support may be found throughout the application.

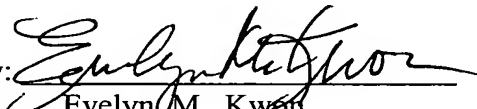
AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this amendment, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 3842-4036US3.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition and for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 3842-4036US3. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,  
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Dated: February 23, 2004

By:   
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